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*Helping People
Help the Land*

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“Transmitted via e-mail”

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MINNESOTA BULLETIN NO. 360-6-7

SUBJECT: PER-SAFETY AND HEALTH – GIDDINGS AND BULL PROBE OPERATION

PURPOSE: To inform users of safety concerns when operating a Giddings/Bull Probe for soil investigations.

Expiration Date: September 30, 2006

Operation of a Giddings/Bull Probe should be performed by only well trained personnel. Personnel in your Area that are qualified in the operation of Giddings/Bull Probe equipment are Area Soil Scientists, MLRA Soil Scientists, and possibly Area Engineers or their staff and may also be used as trainers.

The Owners Manual should be consulted for proper operating instructions and for safeguards, prior to using all equipment. Properly maintained equipment will also aid in the safe operation of the Giddings/Bull Probes.

Items required for safe operation are:

1. Steel toe boots or strap on metal boot shields;
2. Hard helmet;
3. Gloves for handling Kelly bars, augers, and sampling tubes; and
4. Blocks for wheels on non-level slopes.

Additional recommendations, avoid raising the vehicle when using the hydraulic probes, the vehicle should be anchored down if possible, and also the use of the Kelly bar slip tool holder may prevent toe and foot injuries.

If a PTO (power take off) is installed on the vehicle, high vegetation underneath the vehicles may catch fire due to the engine over heating and may damage the vehicle or may cause personal injury.

For further questions, contact Tammy Egerstrom or Cutrina Moreland, State Safety and Health Officers, or contact your area representative.

/s/

WILLIAM HUNT
State Conservationist

DIST: AE